

St. John's College, Chase - Stone House
235 King George Street
Annapolis
Anne Arundel County
Maryland

MABS No. MD-236

HABS
MD,
2-ANNA,
61-

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

HABS
MD,
2-ANNA,
61-

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE Maryland	COUNTY Anne Arundel	TOWN OR VICINITY Annapolis
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) St. John's College, Chase-Stone House		HABS NO. MD-236
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 235 King George St.		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1856-1857 (letter to Board dated 3/5/1855)	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) (Letters to the Board of Governors) Nathan G. Starkweather	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) Named for Samuel Chase and Thomas Stone who were members of the college's original Board of Governors, the house was built as a duplex home for the President and Vice-President of the college. It served as such until 1929 when it became a Greek Fraternity house. (see data sheet 2)		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Renaissance Revival		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS)		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE)		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED)		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES 1929: became fraternity house. 1937: fraternities were abolished; the house was turned into a men's dormitory. 1963: the building was renovated under the direction of the Annapolis (see data page two)		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Men's dormitory		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE The architect, Nathan Starkweather was a Baltimore architect whose best known work is the First Presbyterian Church in Baltimore, built in 1853. The contractors were an Annapolis firm, Spragle and Caulk. The college's building committee consisted of Judge Tuck, Mrs. Stockett, Randall, Claude and Worthington.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Report submitted to HABS by Florence Dunbar of Historic Annapolis, dated 10/1964.		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Eleni Silverman, HABS		DATE August 1983

SIGNIFICANCE (Continued from Page 1)

With the instigation of St. John's College's "great books" program in 1937, fraternities were abolished and the house became a mens' dormitory.

MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS (Continued from Page 1)

architect, James Wood Burch. The exterior was altered by the removal of two wings in the rear which originally served as kitchens, the conversion of the two front doors into windows, and the installation of a new entrance in the rear wall. Bricks used in the renovation were weathered to simulate the original bricks. The chimneys were replaced.

The interiors were substantially altered to accomodate the new mens' dormitory. The partitions between the two houses were removed and six double and fifteen single rooms created. Each room has its own fireplace. Sprial staircases were replaced by conventional enclosed iron stairwells and Virginia greenstone steps.

In order to provide more room space on each floor, the halls were narrowed to four feet and the ceilings proportionately lowered from twelve to nine and one-half feet. This work necessitated removal of nearly all the molded plaster cornice on the first two floors, but that in rooms 103, 104, and 105 was preserved.